



NASA 5<sup>th</sup> Integrated CNS Technologies Conference and Workshop

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**SITA AIRCOM Datalink Implementation Status** 

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### Data link is not new.....

- Airlines have been using it for over 20 years for Operational Communications
- Air Navigation Service Providers have been using it for over 15 years for initial ATC applications
- Global coverage via VHF and Satellite media
- Over 10,000 aircraft are equipped with ACARS data link
- CPDLC/ATN/VDL2, as being implemented by Link2000+, is a significant next step forward to enable delivery of increasingly sophisticated ATC messages

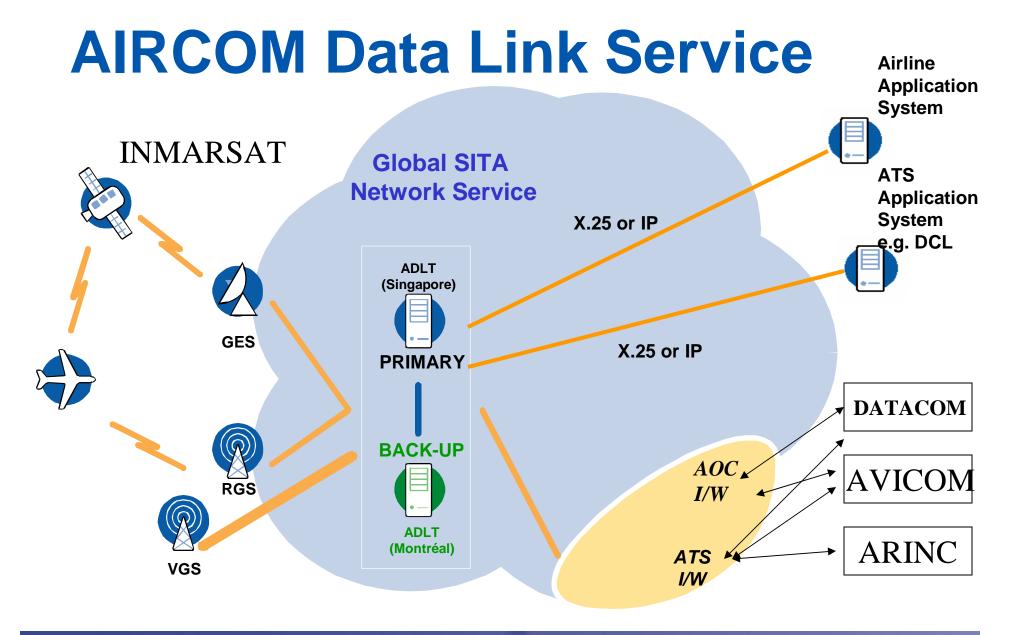


### **ATS Datalink Implementations\***

- Addressable point-to-point
  - Initial ATS ACARS-based implementations
    - PDC
    - DCL
    - ATIS
    - OCL
    - TWIP
    - DDTC
  - FANS-1/A CPDLC, ADS-C (aka ADS-A) (ACARS-Based, Links: POA, VDL Mode 2/AOA, SATCOM Data-2)
  - ATN-Based CPDLC via VDL Mode 2/ATN
- Broadcast
  - FIS-B (VDL Mode 2 broadcast-based and UAT-based in US)
  - TIS-B (UAT- and 1090 Mode S ES-based in US)
  - ADS-B (UAT- and 1090 Mode S ES-based in US)

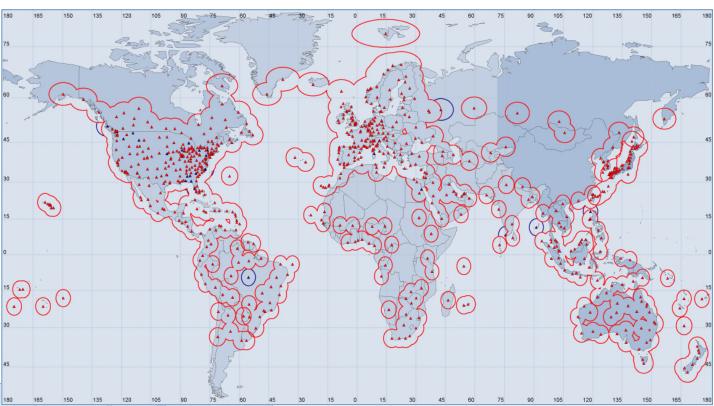
<sup>\*</sup> Above are examples of some of the ATS datalink implementations around the world, some of which are implemented in the US.





### VHF Coverage\*

- World's largest a/g VHF datalink network with 855 Ground stations worldwide in over 152 countries.
- 150 contracted airlines serving
   5000+ aircraft.
- \* As of January 2005. On-line in red, planned in blue.



### VDL Mode 2 Coverage

■ 50 VDL Mode 2 sites online as of April 28, 2005



# Americas VHF AIRCOM ACARS Coverage\*



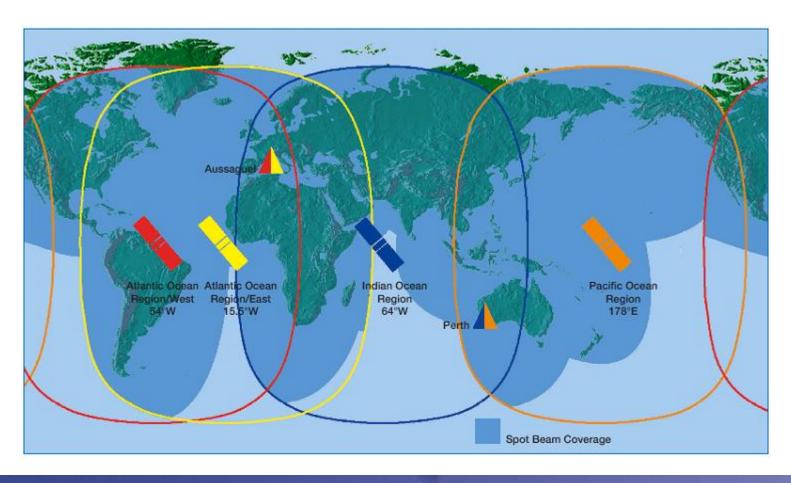
- VHF AIRCOM Coverage in North America as of April 28, 2005:
  - 209 Ground Stations in US
  - 43 Ground Stations in Canada
  - 13 Ground Stations in Mexico
  - SITA committed to expand number of ground stations in North America to 330 by November 2005
  - 7 NAM airlines using SITA
     VHF in NAM

<sup>\*\*</sup> Close to 50 of the stations in the US are actually the SITA next generation VHF Ground Stations, referred to as VGSs, which are capable of supporting VDL Mode 2 and VHF ACARS in parallel. Five of the US VGSs have a radio configured for VDL Mode 2.



<sup>\*</sup> Map as of January 2005, Altitude 30,000 feet-On-line RGS\*\* are in red, planned are in blue

# Worldwide Satellite AIRCOM Coverage





#### **Future Trends ....**

- ACARS VHF networks have typically been deployed by the airline communications service providers SITA and ARINC
- Some Air Navigation Service providers in the Link2000+ program want to continue with this arrangement
  - Nav Portugal, Eurocontrol Maastricht
- Others prefer to take on responsibility themselves for the VHF network infrastructure provision and operation in partnership with an airline service provider
  - DFS, AENA



### **ATN Implementations**

- US FAA Initial Daily Use of CPDLC Build 1 in Miami on October 7, 2002.
   No longer in use as of October 1, 2004. Ongoing work on datalink roadmap development.
- Eurocontrol ATN Controller Pilot Data Link program (Link2000+) calls for aircraft in high density airspace to use ATN messaging over VDL Mode 2 for CPDLC.
  - Three step approach
    - Pioneer Airlines
    - Incentives
    - Mandate
  - All Link2000+ area upper airspace to be covered by 2009
    - Maastricht UAC (Eurocontrol) (Service Available Now), Karlsruhe UAC (DFS), Reims ACC (DSNA), Roma ACC (ENAV), Lisboa ACC (Nav Portugal), Switzerland UAC (Skyguide), Canarias ACC (AENA), Shannon UAC (IAA)



### SITA and Link2000+

- Airlines that have elected to use the SITA ATN Service include:
  - Lufthansa (20 A320)
  - Federal Express (15+ A310)
  - Air Berlin (2 B737)
  - Air Europa (19 B737)
  - Hapag-Lloyd (20 B737)

- Air Navigation Service
   Providers that have elected to use or partner with SITA include:
  - DFS in Germany (Partner)
  - AENA in Spain (Partner)
  - NAV EP in Portugal
  - Eurocontrol MaastrichtUACC (via "internetworking")



## Maastricht UACC use of SITA ACARS for FANS-1/A

- Maastricht UACC started "accommodating" FANS 1/A equipped aircraft in PETAL Phase 2 and this path generated the vast majority of the PETAL CPDLC traffic
- Maastricht's PETAL system used the SITA ACARS services to communicate with FANS-1/A aircraft and the new Link 2000+ CPDLC applications continues to use the SITA ACARS service for FANS-1/A aircraft.
- Link2000+ States need to make a collective decision on whether or not to accommodate FANS 1/A aircraft
- Numbers of FANS 1/A equipped aircraft is expected to continue to rise
- FANS 1/A aircraft will be exempt from the planned Mandate



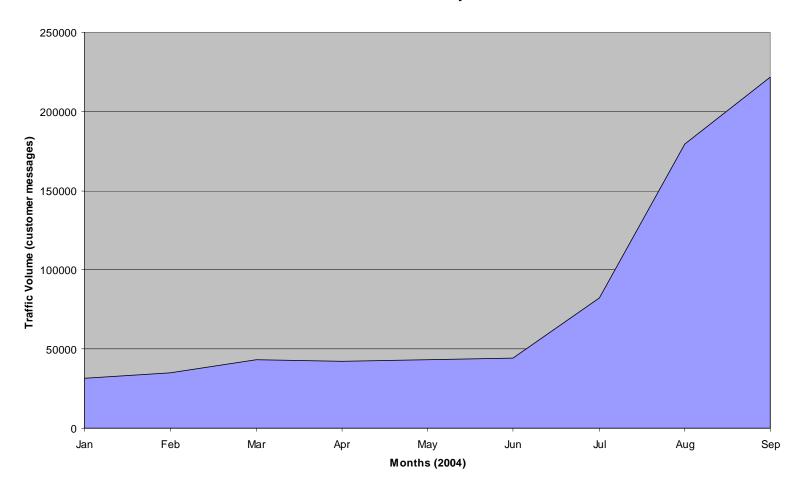
### **VDL Customers**

- Operators using the SITA VDL Service include:
  - AAL (25), AEA (4), AFL (18), AFR (15), DLH (17),
    FDX (12), JAL (12), QFA (19), RAM (2), SWR, TRS (3), UVA (2)
  - Average monthly total of 170 VDL equipped aircraft



### **VDL Traffic**

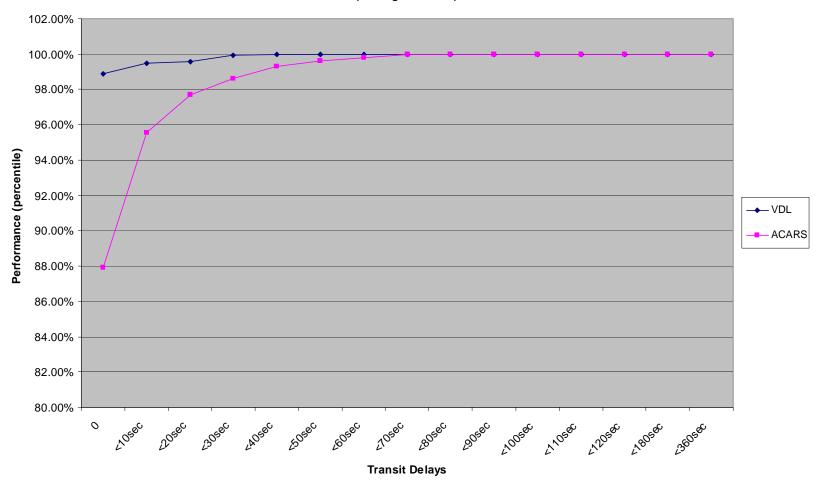
#### **VDL Total Traffic carried by SITA**





### **VDL Performance**

Comparison of VDL and ACARS performance on the AIRCOM Network (trailing 6 months)





### **ATN/VDL Performance**

- Evaluated via Eurocontrol laboratory testing/Eurocontrol flight trials/Air Europa delivery flights and Air Europa revenue flights
  - Over 22 flight hours of service evaluation
  - Average application level round trip delay is around the two second mark
  - Eurocontrol PSG/12 quote...
  - SITA testing completed through extensive flight trials
    - Ready to go into service



### Future CNS Services – ADS-B

- Given the European mandate for Mode S surveillance which will result in all new AIRBUS and Boeing aircraft implementing the ADS-B "out" capability by 2006
  - October 22, 2004-Airservices Australia and SITA announced they are jointly examining the provision of Automatic Dependent Surveillance Broadcast (ADS-B) services to the air navigation service providers in the Asia-Pacific region.
  - The announcement has generated considerable interest with the ATS Providers around the world.
  - The IATA Asia/Pac RCG has established a 7 airline member ADS-B Task Force.
  - SITA/Airservices plan to establish an initial trial/demo implementation by the end of this year in the region.
  - SITA, together with QinetiQ is currently implementing an ADS-B trial implementation.



### **IP Based Solutions**

- SITA Flightlink, based on Inmarsat Swift64, providing aircraft with 64 kbits/sec + communications in two modes.
  - Circuit-mode Mobile ISDN Service (MISDN)
  - Mobile Packet Data Service (MPDS)
- Aircraft can use SITA Flightlink for airborne video conferencing and other in-flight office services.
- In future, Swiftbroadband to be enabled through next generation Inmarsat I-4 Satellites providing a nominal data rate of 432 kbps.
- Aircraft can use SITA Flightlink to provide IP service to Electronic Flight Bags enabling new applications.
- IP Over VDL Mode 2
  - SITA has demonstrated in lab environment.
  - Discussions in AEEC Datalink Systems Subcommittee.



## Satellite Cockpit Voice benefits

- Cockpit voice in Oceanic and Remote regions
  - Outside VHF coverage the voice communications alternatives are HF and satellite.
- HF Voice drawbacks
  - Interference, variability and delays
  - No Direct pilot/controller channel
- Benefits of Satellite Voice
  - Pilots talk directly to controllers
  - Enables complex communications
  - Easy management of low probability / high cost events
- Air Traffic Service Providers in the North Atlantic, South Africa Air Traffic and Navigation Services, and possibly others investigating use of Satellite Voice







## Thank you for your attention

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